

## REGISTRATION AND SUBSCRIPTION SERVICE

Appendix A

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

DATE DECEMBER 22, 1986FULL NAME WARREN LESLIE JOHNSON

(No initials if you can possibly give full name)

ADDRESS [REDACTED]CITY TAYLORVILLESTATE ILLINOISZIP CODE 62568DATE OF BIRTH 12/1/49

(This is important and should be exact)

APPROXIMATE AGE 37

(To be used ONLY when date of birth is not known)

RELIGION [REDACTED]NATIONALITY AMERICANOCCUPATION VETERANS AFFAIRS OFFICER - ILLINOIS - TAYLORVILLE OFFICEEDUCATION HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATEWEIGHT 160-175 lbsHEIGHT 6 ft 1 inRACE CAUCASIANCOLOR OF HAIR BROWNCOLOR OF EYES BROWNOUTSTANDING CHARACTERISTICS OR INTERESTS MEMBER OF OPTIMIST INTERNATIONALMARRIED OR SINGLE MARRIEDCHILDREN [REDACTED]WIFE'S NAME [REDACTED]

## SCOUTING CONNECTIONS:

UNIT #

CITY

STATE

OFFICE

DATE REGISTERED

DATE RESIGNED

1682  
1133

TAYLORVILLE

IL

SM

11/85 Troop 133

12/86

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

None

SC/CC

SC

SUSPENDED OR DENIED REGISTRATION FOR FOLLOWING REASONS:

Alleged Child Abuse

SPECIFY THE FACTS WHICH LEAD YOU TO RECOMMEND DENIAL OF REGISTRATION AND ATTACH SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS (STATE ONLY KNOWN FACTS, NOT RUMOR, CONJECTURE OR SPECULATION):

He allegedly had sex with 4 girls and 7 boys all under the age of 13.**NOTED**Signed [Signature]

SCOUT EXECUTIVE

Council [Signature]

CC 144

F. STARON

DEC 30 '87

JOSEPH [Signature]

CC CF file

1-23-87

cm

221987

January 4, 1988

Mr. Paul J. Hoffman  
Scout Executive  
Abraham Lincoln Council, No. 144

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Warren Leslie Johnson

Dear Paul:

Thank you for the detailed information sent concerning the above Scouter. This case has been reviewed with our attorney and is now on our permanent Confidential File.

Sincerely,

Paul Ernst, Director  
Registration Service

PE/eak

cc: East Central Region

READY TO FILE

JAN 05 1988

ERIN O'RILEY

CONF014533



## ABRAHAM LINCOLN COUNCIL #144

Boy Scouts of America, Inc.

Fair Hills Mail • Monroe at Chatham Road • Springfield, Illinois 62704 • [REDACTED]

December 8, 1987

Mr. Paul Ernst  
Director, Registration Service  
Boy Scouts of America  
1325 Walnut Hill Lane  
P. O. Box 152709  
Irving, Texas 75015-2079

Dear Paul:

Sorry for the delay. We have dug out the reports of the Warren Johnson trial. You will note that there was a guilty plea ending with a ten year sentence.

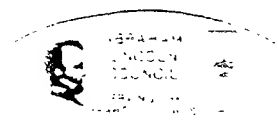
Have a good holiday.

Sincerely,

Paul J. Hoffman  
Scout Executive

enc.

cc: East Central Region



CONF014534

# Weather Forecast

Fair tonight. Lows 65 to 70. Light east winds. Sunny and hot Wednesday. Highs in low or mid 90s.

# Weather Facts

Temperature of 1,000 a.m., 86 degrees; Overcast; low 71 degrees; Monday's high 94 degrees; Light east winds; No precipitation in past 24 hours.

# Freeze Courier

(Christian County's Only Daily)

Volume 94, Number 28

Taylorville, Illinois - Tuesday, June 16, 1987

USPS No. 063840

# Johnson trial concludes with surprise guilty plea

by JIM MUNSON  
News Courier writer

**TAYLORVILLE.** — Warren Leslie Johnson, age 36, of Taylorville, surprised the jury and the spectators at the Christian County Courthouse on Tuesday morning, when he entered a negotiated plea of guilty to six of the nine sexual crimes he was facing, thus ending the trial before any witnesses took the stand.

Johnson entered a negotiated plea of guilty to six of the 11 sexual molestation acts he was being charged with. His guilty plea included a plea of guilty to one charge and act against each of the six children who were the victims.

A negotiated plea was expected by many people to come on Monday. However, after the jury was selected and States Attorney John Coady gave his opening statements on Monday,

the expectations of a plea bargain diminished.

Coady in his opening statements on Monday, told the jury that his witnesses would include mostly the six young victims and a doctor.

He added that the victims would testify that Johnson molested them at times when he was their babysitter. Coady also explained that although there were a total of 19 counts against the defendant, that there were actually only 11 actual sex acts committed and that some of the counts were added because of a modification in the law which made charges of indecent liberties to charges of criminal sexual abuse and assault in July 1984. He explained that in order to cover the incidents that happened in the summer of 1984, maybe before July 1 or maybe after July 1, both charges of indecent liberties and

criminal sexual abuse or assault were filed.

After Coady finished his opening remarks, Defense Attorney Robert Broverman refrained from giving his opening statements, indicating that he would later on in the trial.

Coady then said he would call his first witness at 8:15 a.m. today. That witness never made it to the witness stand.

At approximately 9:30 a.m., Judge David Slater told the jury that there were some legal motions that he and the attorneys would be discussing and told the jurors that the trial who be delayed for approximately 45 minutes. Then shortly after 10 a.m., the plea bargain was officially made, ending the trial.

Judge David Slater will sentence Johnson on Wednesday, July 20. Johnson will be sentenced for a Class 1 felony, which is punishable by up to 15 years in prison.

According to Slater, Attorney John Coady, Johnson's plea bargain was similar to the plea bargain of Father Campbell a few years ago. Campbell, the Mountsview priest, was sentenced to 14 years in prison when he entered a negotiated guilty plea and insanity to sex charges. Campbell also plea bargained guilty to one charge to each victim involved in that case.

Coady stated that his office was approached by the defense attorney this morning with the proposal of the negotiated plea. Coady said he informed the parents and the parents informed the children.

The states attorney said he did not make any recommendation to the parents on whether to accept the plea bargain proposal, or to reject it. He

indicated that the family asked him to accept the plea and he did.

Coady said there are primarily four reasons why the parents recommended accepting the proposal. Those reasons being: 1. Johnson could receive up to 15 years in prison; 2. Johnson entered a plea of guilty to at least half of the acts he was charged with; 3. the negotiated plea also included one count on each of the children involved; and 4. the children would not have to testify in the trial and the defendant could receive a substantial sentence.

The states attorney added that he can understand why the defendant chose to enter the plea with all the evidence available against him.

Coady indicated that the negotiated plea in his opinion, was actually an admission of guilt by Johnson. Coady said, "I don't think people plead

guilty if they are not guilty."

The six charges of the negotiated plea of guilty made by Johnson included two counts of indecent liberties with a minor, and four counts of aggravated criminal sexual abuse.

Johnson will remain free on bond until he is sentenced on July 20 by Judge David Slater.

Johnson was employed as the Christian County Veterans' Administration Officer when he was indicted on the sex molestation charges. Johnson was also President of the Taylorville Optimist Club, in charge of the local Operation Snowball, an anti-drug program for children, and a Republican precinct committeeman.

Johnson resigned from his position with the Optimist Club and Operation Snowball after his arrest. He also took a leave of absence from his VA post.

Weather Forecast

Cloudy, warm and humid tonight, 30 percent chance of thunderstorms. Lows mild 70s. Light winds. Mostly sunny, hot and humid Thursday. Highs in mid 80s.

Weather Facts

Temperature of 1 p.m. 87 degrees; Overnight low 72 degrees; Tuesday's high 92 degrees; Light south winds; 0.15 inches of rain during past 24 hours

Volume 94, Number 65

Taylorville, Illinois - Wednesday, July 29, 1987

USPS No. 063840

Breeze-Courier

Christian County's Only Daily

Johnson sentenced to 10 years

by JIM MUMFORD

TAYLORVILLE — Shortly after noon today at the Christian County Courthouse, Fourth Judicial Circuit Associate Judge David Slater sentenced Warren Leslie Johnson, age 37, of Taylorville, to serve ten years in prison.

Johnson was sentenced to a ten year prison term and a five year probation term to run concurrently. On June 16, Johnson entered a plea of guilty to six of the 11 sexual molestation acts that he was charged with.

Today's sentencing hearing lasted for over three hours, with newly appointed Christian County States Attorney Greg Griepshy making his first appearance in the Christian County courtroom as the prosecuting attorney.

Griepshy called only one witness during today's hearing. The 15 year old daughter of Warren Johnson took the stand to testify that her father fondled her several years ago and tried on one occasion, to have intercourse with her.

During cross examination by Defense Attorney Robert Broverman, the daughter, who lives in Champaign County with her mother, broke down in tears and stated that she did love her father.

She also testified, during Broverman's questioning, that her father has not had any visiting rights for several years. She added, however, that she did contact her father about one year ago and asked him to adopt her.

Warren Johnson was the first witness called by Broverman. During the questioning, the former veterans ad-

ministration officer, stated that he had a drinking problem. He also admitted that he fondled his daughter and received some therapy following that episode.

Johnson also testified that he has not fondled anyone since his daughter.

He said that he entered the guilty plea at the advice of his attorneys and because he knew that it was his word against the words of children and he was afraid to go to trial. He added that he felt no remorse for the events that he pled guilty to, because he did not do anything.

Johnson stated that he wanted to be placed on probation so he could help support his family.

Following Johnson's testimony,

See JOHNSON TRIAL, page 5

Johnson trial...

Broverman called a total of 11 character witnesses for Johnson. Each testified that probation was the proper sentence.

The character witnesses testified of what Johnson did for the community and for youth. The witnesses included his wife, Wilma, his brother-in-law William Swedick, his step-niece Kelly Swedick, friends of Johnson, as well as his neighbors, the Optimist Club and American Legion, and a former neighbor.

Following the witnesses, States Attorney Griepshy in his closing comments, stated that it bothers him that a man can plead guilty and then come to the sentencing hearing and say he is not guilty. He stated that Johnson should be sentenced as a guilty man, not as an innocent man, in spite of all the community service he has done.

Broverman stated that Johnson should get probation because he had no past history of criminal offense, so he can provide for his family, and that he pled guilty because he felt it was in the best interest of everyone

involved.

After hearing from the attorneys, the judge retired to his chambers for over 30 minutes. Judge Slater then came back into the courtroom and explained what all was taken into consideration on passing the sentence.

He told Johnson that in his mind, Johnson did commit the acts that are alleged. It may have started out as horseplay, but then Johnson went too far.

Slater stated to Johnson, "Your story is hard for me to believe." The judge added that the testimony showed that he did a lot for the community and youth. However, he also affected six other young people for the rest of their life, after they placed their trust in him.

Following further comments, Judge Slater sentenced Johnson to a ten year prison term and a five year probation term to run concurrently.

Following the sentence, Broverman made a motion that Johnson not be placed in custody for at least four

continued from page one

hours to get family affairs in order. The judge denied the motion and Johnson was immediately taken into custody.

Following the sentencing hearing Christian County States Attorney Greg Griepshy stated he was satisfied

Five

with the sentence. He added that the system has to work and when a man pleads guilty, he must be sentenced as a guilty man.

Griepshy said that Warren Johnson could be up for parole in about 5 years.

December 2, 1987

Mr. Paul J. Hoffman  
Scout Executive  
Abraham Lincoln Council, No. 144

PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Warren Johnson

Dear Paul:

Earlier this year we had communication with you concerning the above named individual. At that time it was indicated that he had been arrested and charged with molesting children. We have not heard from you since early in 1987.

We wonder if this case is now completed and if you can give us the outcome of the legal action. This information is necessary to us if we are to have a complete file which will lead to refusal of future registration attempts.

Please help us close this file so we can protect the youth of America.

Sincerely,

Paul Ernst, Director  
Registration Service

mdw

cc: East Central Region

READY TO FILE  
DEC 05 1987  
ERIN O'RILEY

CONF014537

October 14, 1987

Mr. Paul J. Hoffman  
Scout Executive  
Abraham Lincoln Council, No. 144

PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Warren Johnson

Dear Paul:

Earlier this year we received from you information concerning the above named individual. It was indicated that he had been charged with sex involving several youth.

We would like to have the outcome of any legal action which has taken place. This would give us the information needed for completing our file. Please tell us if there was a trial, a conviction and a sentence related to this matter.

Thank you for your help in protecting the youth of America.

Sincerely,

Paul Ernst, Director  
Registration Service

eko

cc: East Central Region

READY TO FILE  
OCT 15 1987  
ERIN O'RILEY

CONF014538

February 11, 1987

Mr. Paul J. Hoffman  
Scout Executive  
Abraham Lincoln Council, No. 144

PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Warren Johnson

Dear Paul:

Thank you for sending us all the information concerning the above-named individual. This is very helpful to us and will enable us to identify Mr. Johnson should he try to register in some other location.

We do need the outcome of the legal action and hope you will send us the disposition of this case when trial is completed. We would also like the sentencing which may take place. This will then complete our file and give us enough information for future refusal of registration attempts.

Sincerely,

Paul Ernst, Director  
Registration, Subscription &  
Statistical Service

eak

cc: East Central Region

READY FOR FILE

FEB 11 1987

SHIRLEY MEYER

CONF014539



# STATE

Inside this section:

For the record: Annals of the State

The State Journal-Register  
Springfield, Illinois  
Wednesday, December 10, 1983

Page 13

## Taylorville man charged in sex abuse case

by Joe Stephens

**TAYLORVILLE** — A Taylorville man has been charged with sexually abusing a 4-year-old Springfield girl and her 5-year-old brother while they were entrusted to his wife's care in an unlicensed child care operation.

Clyde F. Reber, 60, was indicted Monday, less than a week after the arrest of another Taylorville man on child sex abuse charges.

Warren L. Johnson, 36, was arrested Thursday for alleged acts ranging from fondling to having intercourse with four girls and two boys, all under the age of 13.

The two cases are not related, Christian County State's Attorney John Coady said. Johnson is president of the Taylorville Optimist Club, a sponsor of an annual bowling tournament for handicapped children; a founder of a Boy Scout troop for handicapped youths; and president of Operation Snowball, a group that fights drug abuse among teenagers.

Reber is charged with three counts of aggravated criminal sexual assault and three counts of aggravated criminal sexual abuse. Reber allegedly fondled and performed oral sex on the children, now ages 4 and 5, during 1985, Coady said.

Reber's wife, Nancy, allegedly ran an unlicensed babysitting service out of their home at 517 E. Esther St., Taylorville, Coady said. The siblings periodically spent two or three days living with the Rebers while their parents traveled, Coady said.

The children told their parents that Reber molested them and the parents contacted authorities, Coady said.

"It is possible that the acts of molestation occurred several times," he said. "Because of the young ages of the children, exact dates and the number of times are not known."

No evidence has been discovered suggesting that other children entrusted to the Rebers' care were abused, Coady said. There also is no evidence that Nancy Reber was aware of the alleged molestations, he said.

The parents chose the Rebers over closer child care facilities in Springfield because they considered the Rebers' rural home to be safer, Coady said.

"It's ironic," he said. "They wanted to be certain they could find a babysitter they could trust."

Coady said there is no physical evidence of the molestations, and no witnesses other than the children.

"There is a legal risk here that the children might not be able to testify (because of their age)," Coady said. "But because I believe the children, I am able to accept that risk."

The case against Reber first was presented to a Christian County grand jury in May, according to police reports. However, that jury returned an indictment only on a charge of illegal operation of a child care facility.

Coady said the more serious charges returned this week probably resulted because the grand jury realized that more judges are allowing young children to testify in such cases.

The same grand jury indicted Johnson on Monday on three counts of aggravated criminal sexual assault and seven counts of aggravated criminal sexual abuse. Johnson, a veterans service officer for the Taylorville branch of the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs, allegedly molested the children between June 1984 and July 1985.

None of the alleged assaults was related to Johnson's extensive work with community youth organizations, Coady said. "Everyone was obviously very surprised (by Johnson's arrest)," said Ron

Spears, Taylorville city attorney and a past president of the Optimist Club. "This person has done many good things; he has done many outstanding things."

"Just because someone brings some charges doesn't mean everyone should turn their back on you."

Spears said he is concerned that the charges might unfairly damage the organizations with which Johnson has been associated.

Another acquaintance also lauded Johnson's work with youth.

"I have known him as a civic-minded individual who was involved with a lot of things," said the woman, who asked not to be named. "He did a lot of good, as far as being a concerned citizen."

Coady said police have investigated Johnson's history in other communities, but would not say what was discovered.

Johnson is free on \$7,500 cash bond. Reber, who turned himself in Monday, remains in the Christian County Jail in lieu of \$75,000 bond.

If convicted, the men could be sentenced to six to 30 years on each assault charge and three to seven years on each abuse charge. Fines of up to \$10,000 may also be assessed on each charge.



TAYLORVILLE, Ill. - Charged with ten counts of aggravated criminal sexual assault and abuse, Warren Leslie Johnson, 36, of Taylorville, leaves the Christian County Courthouse following his appearance this morning. (Photo by Jim Cooper, Jr.)

Sexual assault cases:

# Reber is indicted:

December 8, 1986

FREE HE/ Directed by Mr. SENIOR CIT Adams & Shu Tuesday, December NO APPOINTMENTS NE

mu set des shc abc Eve

## Sexual assault cases ...

PAGE 6

continued from page one

13, during 1985.

Coady stated that "both grand juries heard evidence in regard to alleged sexual offenses by Mr. Reber upon children in he and his wife's care. The first grand jury returned indictments in regard to day care licensing violations. This grand jury return indictments on the sexual molestation charges, the difference due to, in my belief, the recent development of the courts' allowing younger children to testify. These children are ages 5 and 4.

I recognize the possibility of the children being ruled too young to testify, but because I believe the acts occurred, I am willing to accept that legal risk."

Reber and his wife were indicated by the Christian County Grand Jury on May 16, 1986 on the charge of illegal operation of a facility for child care, and subsequently found not guilty during a bench trial on July 22.

A warrant has been issued for Reber's arrest and bond has been set at \$75,000.

Aggravated criminal sexual assault is a Class X felony punishable by imprisonment with the Illinois Department of Corrections for a fixed time of not less than 6 but no more than 30

years and a fine of up to \$10,000. Aggravated criminal sexual abuse is a Class 2 felony punishable by imprisonment of from between 3 and 7 years and a fine not to exceed \$10,000.

In addition to the indictments against Reber, the Grand Jury returned a "No Bill" in regard to allegations against a Kincaid resident.

A Grand Jury memorandum on file indicates that "On Friday, December 5, 1986, the Grand Jury heard testimony from Kincaid Chief of Police, Gregory Rogowski and a Taylorville city resident... concerning an alleged criminal sexual assault perpetrated by Carl Mathes of Kincaid.

Although the Grand Jury returned a "No Bill" in regard to the allegation, the Grand Jury instructed Christian County State's Attorney John P. Coady to file a petition to revoke the defendant's probation alleging as a violation the criminal sexual assault of (the resident)."

Did you know...

Peabody Mine #10 will work tomorrow.

MONDAY DECEMBER 8, 1986.

THURSDAY DECEMBER 4, 1986

## Johnson charged with criminal sexual assault

TAYLORVILLE, Ill. — Bond has been set at \$75,000 for a Taylorville man charged with three counts of Aggravated Criminal Sexual Assault and seven counts of Aggravated Criminal Sexual Abuse.

Warren Leslie Johnson, age 36, of 1006 E. Franklin, was arrested Thursday after a cooperative investigation through the Christian County Sheriff's Department, Taylorville City Police and the Department of Children and Family Services. At presstime, he remained in the Christian County Correctional Center in lieu of bond.

Information filed by States Attorney John P. Coady this afternoon indicated that the charges against Johnson stem from incidents during June

or July and November, 1984 and again during April or May of this year.

Allegations against Johnson range from fondling to intercourse with six different minor children, two male and four female, all under the age of 13 at the time of the incidents.

Aggravated Criminal Sexual Assault is a Class X felony punishable by imprisonment for no less than 6 years and no longer than 30 years and/or a fine of up to \$10,000. Aggravated Criminal Sexual Abuse is a Class 2 felony punishable by imprisonment of from between 3 and 7 years with a maximum fine of \$10,000.

Johnson presently serves as Veteran's Affairs Officer for Christian County.